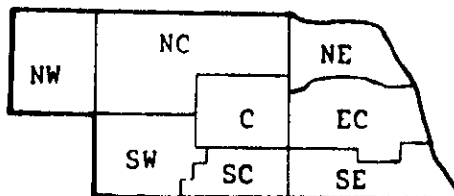


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4-5-76

NEBRASKA

WEEKLY WEATHER & CROP REPORT

Nebraska
State-Federal
Division of
Agricultural Statistics



Statistical Reporting Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture
and U.S. Department of Commerce
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Admin
National Weather Service

Release 4/5/76

Nebraska Department of Agriculture
Division of Agr'l Statistics
Agricultural Extension Service
Institute of Agriculture
and Natural Resources - UNL

Week Ending 4/2/76

WEATHER

Temperatures averaged below normal the first two days of the period and above normal the remaining portion. Wet snow fell over the south central portion of the State averaging one to six inches accompanied by winds of 60 m.p.h. or more the night of March 29th and morning of the 30th. Showers and thunderstorms occurred over the eastern third of the State at the same time. Rains up to two and one-half inches at several locations were reported.

GENERAL

Fieldwork activity was slowed and in some counties brought to a complete halt by last Monday's snow and rain. The moisture was needed and improved the outlook for spring planting. The storm was not without damaging effects as power and telephone lines in parts of the east central, south central and southeast districts were torn down by wind, ice and snow. Some estimates are that it will be weeks before the areas are back to normal. Many farmsteads are being powered by their own power generators. Questions are being raised as to whether full power will be restored in time for electric pump irrigators this summer.

Stalk shredding, disking, fertilizing and fence repair continued when weather permitted which was four and one-half days according to the county agents.

Seeding of small grains continues with oats 32% planted and barley 21% planted. Some farmers are still debating whether to destroy poor wheat stands and plant spring grains.

Topsoil moisture supplies improved from the previous week and are now short in only 36% of counties, adequate in 62% and 2% surplus. This compares with 39% short last year. Subsoil moisture supplies were short in 90% of the counties compared with 91% last year.

CROPS

Winter wheat condition was reported as 10% good, 69% fair, and 21% poor. Reports continue to be received about winter kill. All districts except the northeast and north central have reported crown rot and root rot. There is still some blowing and resultant wind erosion in the northwest and southwest districts.

Alfalfa and wild hay remain in mostly fair condition with some improvement from the previous week because of beneficial moisture. However some fields have been damaged by army cutworm and root rot causing thin stands. Spring alfalfa seeding is underway.

Sugar beet ground preparation was in full swing but planting has just begun by a few producers.

LIVESTOCK

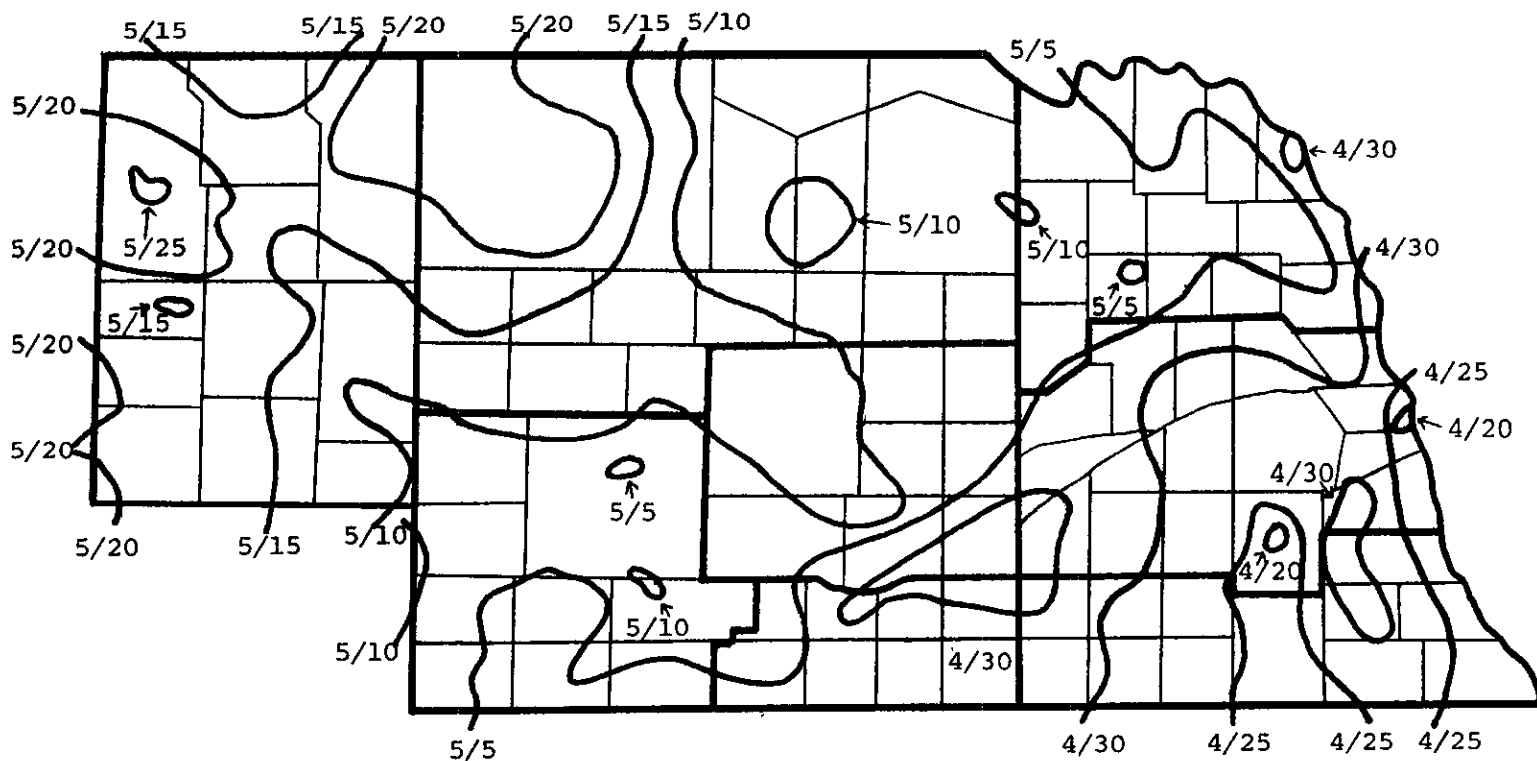
Pasture and range feed supplies were reported short in 74% of the counties. This is slightly improved from the previous week's 76%. Pastures are starting to green up and grow but are not yet ready for use. Calving is moving along with continued good weather, except for last week's storm. Livestock losses due to the storm appear to be minor with little pigs suffering the most from lack of heat and ventilation because of electric failures.

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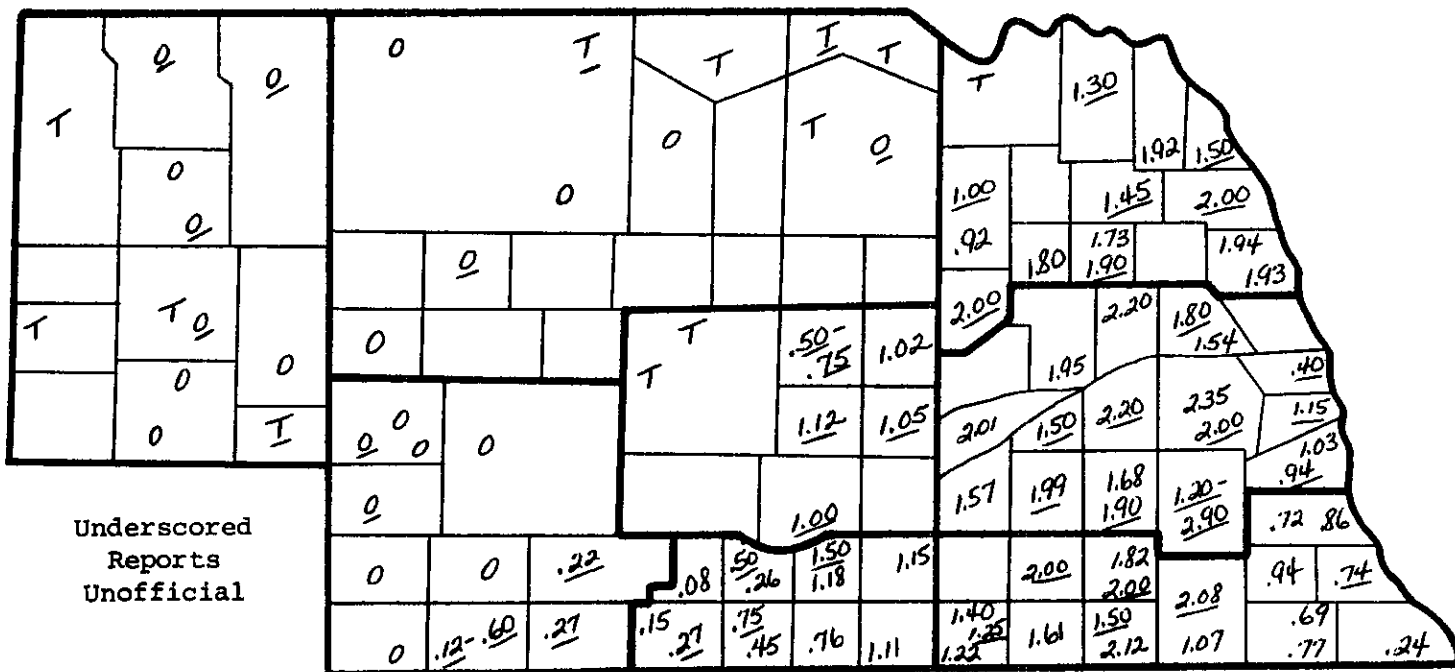


AVERAGE DATE OF LAST 32°F TEMPERATURE IN SPRING 1/



1/ Map based on data from the 50-year period 1921-1970.

PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING 6:00 A.M. SATURDAY, APRIL 3, 1976



TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA FOR WEEK ENDING 6:00 P.M. SUNDAY, APRIL 4, 1976

Station	Temperature				Precipitation
	Extremes		Mean	Departure	Total Inches 1/
	Max	Min			
NW Chadron	79	15	44	--	0
Scottsbluff	77	19	44	+4	T
Sidney	75	18	42	--	.06
NC Burwell	73	24	43	--	0
Valentine	77	17	42	+4	0
NE Norfolk	68	26	44	+3	1.14
Sioux City	70	27	45	+3	.98
CEN Grand Island	69	28	45	+2	.71
EC Lincoln	72	25	46	+2	1.52
Omaha	77	26	48	+3	1.11
SW Imperial	79	20	43	--	0
North Platte	74	17	40	+1	0

1/ Precipitation totals not included in map above.

Precipitation, April 1 - April 2, 1976

	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week.....	.00	.00	1.20	.40	1.70	.00	.60	1.10
Total since April 1.....	.00	.00	1.20	.40	1.70	.00	.60	1.10
Normal since April 1.....	.10	.10	.14	.12	.14	.10	.12	.15